Policy for running primary schools

1364. SHRI KM. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

{a) whether (here is a policy tor running primary schools in the country;

(b) if so. the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that lakhs of children study under open sky in certain States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Though education is a concurrent subject. Slates frame their own norms for running primary schools. The National Policy of Education and its Programme *of* Action, alongwith recommendations of the Central Advisory Board of Education, serve as guiding principles for States for running schools.

(c)The last All India Educational Survey 1993 found some Primary Schools
running in open spaces. On account of construction of classrooms under
Operation Blackboard. DPHP and many other programmes, the situation would
have considerably improved since then.

Harassment of female employees in Government offices

1365. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH "SURYA": Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that cases of harassment of female employees in Government offices are growing day by day;

th) whether any survey/study has been done in this regard to find out its scale;

(c) if so. the result thereof; and

(d)whether Government would consider bringing a law with a view to deal with such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): fa) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Supreme Court of India in its judge mem dated 13.8.97 in the case of Visakha and others *versus the* Slate of Rajasthan and others laid down detailed guidelines for prevention of sexual harassment of women at the work place. Action has been taken to implement the guidelines of the Supreme Court in letter and spirit. These guidelines have the force of law under Article 141 of the Constitution of India.

Evaluation of Teachers by Students in Institutions of Higher Education

1366. SHRI CM. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to stale:

(a) whether the Rastogi Commission set up by the University Grants Commission had recommended introduction of a system of evaluation of Teachers by students in institutions of higher education: and

(b)if so, what steps have been taken so far to introduce this system, to improve the quality of higher education in different Universities and National Institutes of Higher Education, including UTs, Engineering Colleges and Medic a! Institutes'.'

THE MINISTER OE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Notification dated 24.12.98 sent by UGC to all Universities, and Stales and UTs on revision of pay scales, minimum qualifications for appointment of teachers in Universities and Colleges and other measures for the maintenance of standards, *inter-alia,* stipulates thai it would he optional lor the institutions to consider introducing student evaluation as a method of assessment of the teachers, particularly in small institutions, post-graduate departments, professional colleges and autonomous colleges. Appropriate action for implementation of the above stipulations is required to be taken h\ the Slate Governments, UT Administrations and the individual universities concerned.

As regards UTs and Engineering Colleges, there is already a well-established system of taking feed- hack from the students in the UTs. The institutions covered under AICTE have not introduced any system of evaluation of teachers by the students. Medical institutes do not fall within the purview of this Ministry.